



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/438,786	12 Nov 99	Hara et al.	00144/122111

EXAMINER

K. Feggins

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2861

20

DATE MAILED:

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) David Ovedovitz (3) Kristal Feggins
(2) John Barlow (4) _____

Date of Interview 9 Apr 02Typ : Telephonic Personal (copy is given to applicant applicant's representative).Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: Yes No If yes, brief description: _____Agreement was reached. was not reached.Claim(s) discussed: 24, 29 + 34Identification of prior art discussed: Kobayashi et. al. (US 6,036,292)

Description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

Discussed the proposed claims; updated search will be necessary;
Modification of claim language (24) was discussed w/applicant &
will be taken into consideration. Applicant discussed the generation
the flashing signal wherein the must is not formed
upon receipt of claims.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments, if available, which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments which would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

K7
1. It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview.

Unless the paragraph above has been checked to indicate to the contrary, A FORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION IS NOT WAIVED AND MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a response to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW.

2. Since the Examiner's interview summary above (including any attachments) reflects a complete response to each of the objections, rejections and requirements that may be present in the last Office action, and since the claims are now allowable, this completed form is considered to fulfill the response requirements of the last Office action. Applicant is not relieved from providing a separate record of the interview unless box 1 above is also checked.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an attachment to another form.

ITINERARY FOR APRIL 9, 2002 INTERVIEW

- I. Discuss the present invention verses the prior art.
- II. Discuss proposed claim amendments to independent claims.
- III. Discuss differences between Kobayashi and proposed independent claims.

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS (FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY)

24. (Proposed) An ink-jet recording apparatus comprising:
a recording head provided with a nozzle, said recording head being operable to jet ink particles through said nozzle; and

a flushing signal generating unit operable to generate a flushing signal that causes said recording head to jet only main ink particles through said nozzle.

29. (Proposed) An ink-jet recording apparatus comprising:
a recording head provided with a nozzle, said recording head being operable to jet ink particles through said nozzle; and
a flushing signal generating unit operable to generate a flushing signal that causes said recording head to jet only ink particles with a momentum greater than a predetermined value through said nozzle, so as to not form a mist.

34. (Proposed) An ink-jet recording apparatus comprising:
a recording head provided with a nozzle, said recording head being operable to jet ink particles through said nozzle; and
a flushing signal generating unit operable to generate a flushing signal that causes said recording head to intermittently jet sets of ink particles comprising a main ink jet particle and minute ink jet particles after the main ink jet particle through said nozzle, wherein
the minute ink jet particles of a previous set combine with the main ink jet particle of a following set in a range of a predetermined distance from said nozzle, so that an amount of the minute ink jet particles scattered in mist can be reduced.